

## 1 CLAIMS

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Sub A.3  
3 1. A connector for connecting a first tubular to a  
4 second tubular; the connector comprising a first  
5 portion on the first tubular and a second portion on  
6 the second tubular, wherein the first and second  
7 portions each have axially extending portions which  
8 in the assembled connector are mutually parallel.

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10 10 2. A connector as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the  
11 first and second portions have mutually engaging  
12 threaded portions.

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14 14 3. A connector as claimed in Claim 2 wherein the  
15 axially extending portions are unthreaded.

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17 17 4. A connector as claimed in Claim 3 wherein the  
18 axially extending portions are load-bearing and  
19 allow the transfer of loads between the tubulars.

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21 21 5. A connector as claimed in Claim 4 wherein two  
22 axially extending portions are provided on each  
23 tubular.

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25 25 6. A connector as claimed in Claim 5 wherein  
26 the first axially extending portion on each tubular  
27 is greater in length than the second axially  
28 extending portion on each tubular.

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30 30 7. A connector as claimed in Claim 6 wherein the  
31 axially extending portions on each tubular are  
32 provided above and below the threaded portion.

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1       8. A connector as claimed in Claim 7 wherein a  
2       spigot and a socket comprise the axially extending  
3       portions on each tubular.

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5       9. A connector as claimed in Claim 8 wherein the  
6       spigot is provided between the tubular's threaded  
7       face and terminus.

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9       10. A connector as claimed in Claim 9 wherein the  
10      spigot on the first tubular engages the socket on  
11      the second tubular.

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13      11. A connector as claimed in Claim 10 wherein the  
14      spigot on the second tubular engages the socket on  
15      the second tubular.

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17      12. A connector as claimed in Claim 11 wherein the  
18      first tubular comprises a pin connector.

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20      13. A connector as claimed in Claim 12 wherein the  
21      second tubular comprises a box connector.

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23      14. A connector as claimed in Claim 13 wherein the  
24      socket of the first tubular and spigot on the second  
25      tubular are greater in length than the socket of the  
26      second tubular and spigot of the first tubular.

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28      15. A connector as claimed in Claim 14 wherein the  
29      axially extending portions are parallel to the axis  
30      of the tubulars.

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1       16. A connector as claimed in Claim 15 wherein the  
2       first and second tubulars have a tapered profile.

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4       17. A connector as claimed in Claim 16 wherein the  
5       tapered portions of the first and second tubulars  
6       are the threaded portions of the first and second  
7       tubulars and have co-operating tapers to facilitate  
8       mating of the two portions.

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10      18. A method for connecting a first tubular to a  
11       second tubular the method comprising the steps of-  
12           gripping a first tubular at a position spaced  
13           from its terminus;  
14           engaging the first and second tubulars;  
15           gripping the second tubular; and  
16           applying torque between the tubulars.

A CONNECTOR DEVICE